The shortage has been due to shut-down of different units of Mathura refinery from 26.3.1995 to 19.4.1995, shortfill in rail movements to the Northern region and saturation of port capacity especially at Kandla leading to delays in unloading of imported stocks.

LPG bottling Plants

6271. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Private sector companies are keen to set up LPG bottling plants in the country;

(b) if so, what are the private companies which have applied to Government to set up LPG plants;

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to allow those private companies to set up LPG bottling plants; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (d) Under the Parallel Marketing Scheme, private agencies are not required to obtain any licence from the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas for setting up LPG bottling plants. However, they are required to obtain necessary approvals under the relevant Acts and Rules regarding safety, pollution control etc., as applicable. As per the information available from the Chief controller of Explosives, Nagpur, 49 bottling plants have been granted licences upto 5th May, 1995.

LPG Extension Point at Basot

6272. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received some representations from public at large and some Member of Parliament for opening an extension point for distribution of LPG at Basot in district Almora, Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the impediments for opening the said extension point which would cater to a large number of residents of nearby densely populated villages; and

(d) by when the said extension point is expected to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (d) Request has been received for extension of LPG facility upto Basot in Almorah (UP).

The main constraint in opening of extension point at Basot has been non-fixation of additional transportation charges by the District Authorities that would be applicable to Basot market. As soom as necessary approval is received by IOC from the District Authorities, extension point at Basot will be commissioned.

Responsibility of the Director of Drilling for the blow out in the OIL well

6273. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of the commission of inquiry has held the director of Drilling, responsible for the recent blow-out in the ONGC's off-shore well at Parsalapudi, in Andhra Pradesh as reported in the Indian express dated the 7th March, 1995; and

(b) whether the Director of Drilling had got three extensions, and if so, of what duration each; and

(c) what systemic and other steps Government are taking to prevent repetition of such blow-outs in the future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH

SHARMA): (a) The report of the One-man enquiry Committee set up by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas is being examined by the Government.

(b) Shri Paintal was selected as Director for a period of 5 years i.e. upto 29th June, 1994. Since, he was due to superannuate on 31st March, 1995, it was decided to extend his tenure till the date of superannuation and accordingly the proposal was sent to PESB. Pending the approval for PESB, Government extended his tenure thrice for a period of 3 months each till his superannuation on 31st March, 1995. No extensions were given to him beyond the date of superannuation.

(c) There are standing instructions issued by ONGC on the precautions and safety measures to be taken to avoid occurence of accidents such as blow out etc. Further instructions have been issued by the Corporation after the present blow out, for taking necessary precautionary measures. In the meantime, the Crisis Management group of ONGC, which is responsible for fire fighting, is being strengthened in terms of sophisticated equipment.

मध्य प्रदेश में एल पी जी एजेंसियां

6274. श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेवः क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे किः

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में वर्ष 1994-95 और 1995-96 के दौरान तरलीकृत पेट्रोलियम गैस (एल पी जी) की एजेंसी किन-किन स्थानों में दिए जाने की अनुमति दी गई है और कितने स्थानों के लिए इस संबंध में प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन है;

(ख) रायगढ़ जिले में किन किन स्थानों के लिए एल पी जी की एजेंसी किये जाने की अनुमति दी गई है और किन स्थानों के लिए प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन है; और

(ग) क्या वर्ष 1994-95 में जशपुर नगर तहसील में एल पी जी एजेंसी खोलने की अनुमति दी गई है; यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन सतीश शर्मा): (क) और (ख) मध्य प्रदेश की 1994-96 की एल पी जी विपणन योजना में 88 एल पी जी डिस्ट्रीबयूटरशिपों को सम्मिलित किया गया है। इनमें से 3 एल पी जी डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिपें रायगढ़ जिले के लिए प्रस्तावित की गई हैं।

(ग) जी, नहीं। कम संभाव्यता के कारण वर्तमान समय में जशपुर में एक एल पी जी डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिप की स्थापना करना आर्थिक रूप से व्यवहार्य नहीं होगा।

Sanctioning of Import Orders of Kutch Based SKO Dealers

6275. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what quantum of SKO is imported in India and at what rate;

(b) whether any import orders of BPCL and HPCL have been sanctioned to Kutch based SKO dealers, recently;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what is the landed cost of SKO after import, its rate in India and on what terms and conditions the import of SKO orders to the said parties have been sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) About 4240 TMT of SKO was imported for public sector oil companies during 1994-95 at weighted average price (provisional) of US $180.54 (CIF) per Metric Tonne.

(b) to (d) Under the Parallel Marketing System, Government has allowed the private agencies to import and market Kerosene throughout the country, by using/setting up their own import facilities and distribution network for sale at market determined prices. Till they develop their own import factilities, oil companies are making their facilities available to prarallel marketeers for import of SKO. During 1994-95, parallel marketeers imported around 521.6 TMT of SKO at various ports.